

# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

April 17, 2015

#### Ward 2 Council Office 7575 E Speedway 791-4687 Ward2@Tucsonaz.goy

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**Donations** 

# **PAUL'S NOTE**

The city honored the Unified Community Advisory Board this week. The work they've done, largely in obscurity, has been vital to the health of thousands of Tucsonans.

Way back in 1982, it was found that some of the companies located around the Tucson International Airport had contaminated the groundwater in the area with Trichloralethelene, or TCE, an industrial solvent. The area encompassed by the contamination plume had wells that had supplied 47,000 Tucsonans for decades. The EPA declared it a superfund site.

Two leaders emerged, Lorraine Lee and Manuel Herrera Jr. Their activism and commitment led to the formation of UCAB, which helped oversee the clean-up. Such groups have emerged in other communities with superfund sites, but they don't last as long as UCAB has. Usually, early enthusiasm peters out, not so with UCAB. Both Lee and Herrera have passed on, Manuel's torch was passed to his daughter Yolanda and the organization is still there and actively watching out for ensuring that Southsiders have a safe drinking water supply.

UCAB has worked with a variety of agencies, including the Air Force, EPA and Tucson Airport Authority to make sure that plans are carried out with local residents in mind. A few years before I got on the council, tests found a second chemical, 1,4-dioxane, in the area. UCAB's persistence made sure that the city funded a facility to remove the chemical from the water. Given the health issues associated with the chemical, we could not wait the years it would take to get the companies involved to accept responsibilPage 2 Paul Cunningham

# PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

ity and fund the project. It went online last year and it cleans 8 million gallons of water per day.

In a lot of communities, it is easy to look at one part of town and wall off its problems as not yours or your neighbor's concerns. I'm glad that in Tucson, we don't do that sort of thing. All of us owe a debt of gratitude to those who fought for the health and safety of our water supply.

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Last year, Bicycling Magazine named Tucson one of the top bicycle friendly cities. If you are looking for a way to bike around our city, Cyclovia is making an appearance this weekend.

This will be Tucson's eighth Cyclovia. During Cyclovia, a section of street is closed to motorized traffic and participants are encouraged to bike, walk or use any other form of person-powered transportation. I haven't yet seen pogo sticks, but you are welcome to try it out if that's your thing.

Saturday's Cyclovia runs from Downtown to our neighbor city, South Tucson. They have done one in the area before, and this year it will be going down both 6th and 4th Avenues, roughly from 13th Street to Mission View Elementary School on the corner of 6th Avenue and 38th Street.

Organizers are promising more than 50 free, healthy and engaging activities hosted by local organizations and businesses line the route. Twenty-five featured activities make up a scavenger hunt called ¡Cinco for Cyclovia! that will guide participants on an unforgettable tour of the event and help them gather stickers for a chance to win one of three bicycles donated to the event, as well as dozens of other prizes from local merchants, including Cox Communications, Banner-University Medical Center and Clif Kid. There will also be a bicycle helmet giveaway sponsored by the City of Tucson, Pima Association of Governments, Tucson Medical Center and the Living Streets Alliance.

If you need more information about parking and how to get around in the area, please visit cylcoviatucson.org.

Most importantly, get out there this weekend, meet your neighbors and get some exercise before the sun becomes a bit too much.

### **DINE OUT FOR SAFETY AT WARD 2 RESTAURANTS**

The Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (SACASA) is asking our communities to help us help those in need. Dine Out for Safety is a unique and fun community-wide event that encourages the community to support survivors of sexual abuse and assault by simply gathering up their friends and family and dining out. On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, restaurants in the Tucson metro area have joined in the effort by agreeing to donate a portion of sales to Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault in an effort to increase awareness about their vital services. 100% of the proceeds will stay in the local community to support survivors of sexual violence. Two restaurants in Ward 2 are participating: Vero Amore (2920 N Swan Rd) and Mama's Hawaiian Bar-B-Cue (6310 E Tanque Verde).

SACASA is a community resource that provides education and support for individuals and families impacted by sexual trauma. SACASA provides a safe place for survivors to gain strength, learn coping skills, and develop trusting, caring relationships. This event is held each year in April as it is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

More information about the event and an updated list of participating restaurants are available at www.dineoutforsafety.com.

### VETERAN'S FRIEND

Veteran's Friend's Mission is to make a positive difference in the quality of life of all senior veterans by providing a free service to inform and educate veterans, their families, and surviving spouses about a special VA pension for which they are often entitled but fail to understand.

VA Accredited claims Representative Robert Dhillon has a 100% success rate in obtaining VA pensions benefits. Join Robert for a free educational briefing where you will learn the truth about Veterans Benefits.

Robert Dhillon, president of REAL Solutions Services, operates Veteran's Friend to assist World War II, Korea and Vietnam wartime veterans and their spouses collect their tax-free VA pension, up to \$25,000 a year, to pay for long term health care.

Dates: April 18, May 16 and June 20

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Ward 2 Office, 7575 E Speedway.

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#### **CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER**

**Agua Caliente:** A picnic at the Agua Caliente Park is scheduled for Thursday, April 23. Departure from the senior addition is 10:00 a.m. and return is 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$5.00. Lunch will be provided.

**Open House:** The Udall Recreation Center will host an Open House on Wednesday, April 29 for its 25th Anniversary celebration. There will be refreshments and give-a-ways.

## **PARKS PROGRAMS**

**Spring Swim Schedule:** The Spring Swim schedule for Udall Park and Ft. Lowell Park starts April 1st. Contact the Aquatics Division at 791-4245/791-5352 or visit http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/aquatics#hours for pool locations and swim schedule.

**ARC New Open Swim Schedule:** The Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center has a new schedule for open swim.

**Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog:** The Summer 2015 Program Guide and Class Catalog will be available on Monday, April 20, 2015. The catalog can be picked-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities. It can be viewed on-line at www.ezeereg.com Contact the Registration Office at 791-4877 for additional information.

**Tucson POPS Concerts:** The Tucson POPS Concerts will take place on May 10, 17, 24, 31 and June 7 and 14. Concerts start at 7:00 p.m. at the DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center in Reid Park. There is a limited amount of seating at DeMeester which fills up quickly. Please bring chairs or a blanket.

**The Arizona Symphonic Winds Concerts:** The WINDS Concert series will take place May 16, 23, 30 and June 5. The program will take place at the Lazslo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a chair or blanket.

**Facility Closures:** All Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed on Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

# PAUL CUNNINGHAM, CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2

Eastside City Hall 7575 E Speedway Tucson AZ 85710

Phone: 520 791 4687 Fax: 520 791 5380 E-mail: ward2@tucsonaz.gov

Tucsonaz.gov/ ward2 Remember to like Paul on Facebook! Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office for the following charities:

THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable Items

DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA— Infant/Child/Adult Diapers

TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals and Families in Need

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/ Dance Equipment

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

# MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, April 21. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs

